

The Orangeburg Democrat.

Vol. II.

ORANGEBURG, S. C., FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1880.

No. 35.

Darlington Dots.

Editors Orangeburg Democrat:

EARLY'S CROSS ROADS, Aug. 6.

As the editor always follows the fashion of writing whenever he takes an excursion away from home, perhaps a few notes will be acceptable from this county, as I have seen nothing concerning it in the papers. Every out-going train being now laden with passengers off for a summer tour, it was not surprising to see Orangeburg so well represented on the 30th of last month, Glenn Springs, Greenville and Hendersonville being their principal destinations. The attractions in the capital are not so much appreciated while the mountains are seen in the dim perspective, but the friends and associations of other days clustering around *alma matre*, rendered my stay in Columbia very enjoyable. The State House was the loneliest place I saw, as only an occasional politician was visible lingering in the cool passage-way or reclining on the steps idly watching the few loiterers who were inspecting the monument. Some small degree of excitement attended the ride on the Wilmington, Columbia and Augusta Railroad, which left at five o'clock P. M. It was discovered that there was a lunatic in the same coach, and it would have been difficult to decide just then which of the passengers was from the asylum. The conductor soon appeased our fears by saying he was quite used to it, as mad men and penitentiary convicts were frequent travelers on his train, though he usually secured them as baggage. Apart from this the seventy mile ride to Timmonsville was devoid of interest. This town, though small and somewhat unfavorably located, is one of the pleasantest places I have ever visited. The inhabitants have not merely a local reputation for their social and hospitable traits, but their merits are known and appreciated far and wide. Indeed, this county generally, bears off the palm in these respects. It is very thickly settled, and is hard to excel in its social advantages, the present week affording an opportunity to display them effectively. The Floral Fair and Joint Summer Meeting of the State Grange and Agricultural Societies drew distinguished visitors from all parts of the State, but, sad to relate, Orangeburg was not represented at the meeting. The Grangers certainly missed the opportunity of visiting the finest farming section of the country, the Pee Dee belt being justly celebrated for its productions. A prominent and successful citizen gave me some surprising statistics concerning the values of cotton lands and the progress in the county. How would our farmers fancy paying from \$20 to \$30 per acre for their lands? Real estate has increased 50 per cent., in choice sections 100 per cent., in the last few years. A tract in this vicinity recently sold on the sheriff's block at \$21 per acre cash. Some of the visitors from the Piedmont belt were exceedingly surprised to see such a thriving condition of affairs. A granger from the mountains asserted seriously that he thought Darlington and Orangeburg was the land of alligators, rattlesnakes and mosquitos, where it was impossible to live out one's natural life, for if these did not destroy, fever and ague would certainly cut short our days. He expected to find a wilderness, the inhabitants living in log houses and running one house power on their farms; instead he discovered a blooming garden, healthy intelligent people, handsome residences, and rich lands in a high state of cultivation. His first morning was characteristic. Springing out of bed in great trepidation, he started his comrade, and roused the household by his assertion that a rattlesnake had attacked him while asleep. An investigation ensued, resulting in the discovery of a playful kitten purring cosily on his couch. Will not somebody from Orangeburg attend the next meeting and correct these erroneous impressions?

It is a better idea to hold a Floral Fair in mid-summer, I think, than in early spring, because then merchants and farmers, as well as those in the professional field, would have more leisure to attend. Here it is more of a fruit exhibition—a grand annual picnic, for when the premiums are awarded at noon, a general distribution of fruit and flowers takes place; everybody goes and all seem to participate heartily in the effort to make it a success, and consequently all enjoy the occasion very much. Besides the large attendance from the town and county, several excursion trains brought a large number of visitors from Sumter, Marion, Marlboro, Columbia and North Carolina. The buildings are finely situated in the midst of an oak grove, the main hall being very extensive, with piazzas on three sides, which were constantly thronged with an endless procession of gay promenaders. The elegant costumes worn by the ladies, the lovely flowers, the sweet strains of music, the fine display of handsome equipages made a bright and festive scene on this joyous anniversary.

The famous Gully Campmeeting has just closed. The place is the most beautiful I have ever seen. The centre of the ground is occupied by a large stand and a handsome church, the tents are not numerous, one side of the square being vacant. This, however, is literally packed with the vehicles of the large throngs who come in the day, morning or afternoon, and return home after evening services. The ground is kept as white, smooth and neat as a private yard, and the cemetery on one side is in perfect order. Rev. D. D. Dantzer, the pastor in charge, was assisted by Messrs. Stoll, Hodges, Pequen, Simons, Beasley, Richardson, Ariel, McKoy, Mr. Henderson, a Presbyterian minister from Canada, and others. On Monday afternoon a blind lady of Clarendon County, educated at Cedar Springs Institute, lectured, sang, accompanying herself on the organ, and read extracts from the Bible. Her lecture, or address rather, excited a great deal of curiosity. Riding out is a favorite pastime during the progress of the meeting, that is, between services; and the surrounding roads afford beautiful drives, for one visit the mineral spring, see the charming land of Lydia, in another direction, or drive to the famous Cash-Shannon duelling ground.

Composting.

Editors Orangeburg Democrat:

In the last issue of THE DEMOCRAT, "An observer" comments upon, and dissents from the views of Dr. Summers in regard to the management of manure. The views of both are, in great measure, correct. Manure for crops, as early planted field crops, the rapid growth and early maturity of which, is not particularly desirable, should unquestionably be allowed to remain in the stalls where made until the time for hauling it into the field. The composting of it in that case, would be a waste of both time and labor. Manure however, for crops having only a limited time in which to grow and mature, making rapid growth and early maturity on that account, a matter of very great importance, should by all means be composted, and thorough be decomposed before being applied; though under no circumstances should manure be composted without the addition to the heap in forming it, of an occasional layer of some good absorbent and retainer of ammonia, as plaster, charcoal, swamp muck, clay or earth, the pile to be completed with a covering of the same material. This done, there need be no fear of the loss of ammonia. The substances named, as absorbents, should be thoroughly pulverized before being used, and in a comparatively dry state.

A. G. S.

If the candidate has not been to your house, you must live in a very out-of-the-way place. If you wish to see him, let him know that fact, and he will call on you promptly.

An Address.

To the Colored Voters of the County of Orangeburg:

As we are now approaching the eve of another general election, it is proper that we should address you on the issues of the day, in order that you may be informed of the views we entertain, and of the candidates whom we propose for your support.

It is unnecessary to remind you of the improved and prosperous condition of our County under Democratic administration. Four years ago, the County was almost bankrupt, the school system was breaking down under the load of debt that was the result of injudicious and dishonest use of the school moneys, by which the teachers of the County were being robbed of an education. Distrust and discord existed between white and colored people, on account of political differences, the result of the evil advice of designing men, who gave you false counsels, in order to gain your votes for themselves and give them offices in which they could use the public moneys for their own advantage. And when the Democratic Party at that time, under the leadership of Gen Hampton, called upon the good and respectable voters of the State, both white and colored, to rise up and restore the State to honest government and prosperity and peace, the Republican officeholders told you that the Democratic party intended to deprive the colored people of their rights before the law, and even to deprive them of their freedom. But it was in vain that the enemies of good and honest home government sought to hold their ill gotten and ill used power. Their administration had grown to be a stench in the nostrils of all honest men, both white and colored. It was the will of God that such wickedness should no longer prosper in our land. By the votes of both white and colored people of our state, the cause of reform was carried to a glorious victory.

And what has been the result? The people of our County have been living in harmony and peace; our industrious efforts for the support of ourselves and our children have been rewarded by a kind Providence with success; and we have enjoyed the fruits of our labors, under our own vine and fig-tree, with none to molest us and make us afraid: our children have had better school, and their teachers have been better paid, and have had more heart in their work. You, our colored fellow-citizens, are gradually seeing your way to homes of your own, where you can raise up your children around you, and feel assured of good instruction for them, by which they may grow up good and intelligent citizens.

These are the results of Democratic government; and it is our purpose in the future to continue them to you and to do even more than has been already done. In the last four years the County and School funds had heavy debts to meet, which were contracted before the Democratic party came into power; but a large part of these debts has been paid, and therefore we can do more hereafter than we have already done. All this has been accomplished with lighter taxes than were paid before. Now, the question which we put to you is this: Do you want a return of the old times when the men who held office put upon the country the burden of heavy taxes and then stole the money and defrauded the public? Many of you have taxes to pay on your property, which you have acquired by your honest toil; you can feel for yourselves the benefit of good government in making your taxes lighter, and thus helping you to improve in your worldly means. And again: Do you want to see discord and disturbance and distrust among our people white and colored? We know that you will say that you do not want these things. Then we say to you, Come with us; cheerfully join with us, and let us all work together for our common good.

When we say to you, that our principles are safety to your rights security to your homes, maintaining law and order in the community, education to your children; we speak to you confidently, and point to the candidates who have been put forth as our standard bearers. We have nominated for President a distinguished General of the Union Army, Winfield Scott Hancock, who, from the beginning of the war to its end risked his life on the field of battle for the cause of the Union, a man who has the confidence of the whole country, North and South, and against whom no one can say a word of discredit.

On our State Ticket, we have put in nomination for Governor, Johnson Hagood, of Barnwell, who was elected to a State office on the same ticket with General Hampton in 1876, and holds the same views, and support the same platform as were advocated by General Hampton in his public utterances and in his career as General and Senator. The rest of the State Ticket is composed of gentlemen, all of whom are likewise in sympathy with the same principles, and most of whom served in State offices during Governor Hampton's term as Governor, ably supported him in his administration.

In this Congressional District we have nominated for Congress M. P. O'Connor, who has distinguished himself in his past career, and is the author of the Bill to compensate the colored people for the money that was stolen from them by the Freedmen's Saving Bank, thus showing his care and attention to your interests.

For Solicitor, we have nominated again W. St. Julien Jervey, whom you have often seen in the Court House, conducting the business in his hands with ability and skill, in order that violations of the law may be punished, and the peace and good order of the County be maintained.

We feel satisfied that we are going to be victorious in this campaign, and we invite you to unite with us, and share in our triumph. To those who have been with us in the past, we need say nothing more than that we trust you will not be enticed into backsliding by the words of men who have proven themselves false prophets in the past; and to those who are now undecided, we say that at the North, numbers of Republicans in every part of the country are rallying to the support of Hancock and English, who will be the next President and Vice-President of the United States; and in all parts of the State, and more especially in the County of Barnwell, which is Gen. Hagood's own County, the colored people are organizing Hancock and Hagood Clubs, and are earnest and hearty in their support of the candidates of the party of honesty, good government, harmony, union, and peace.

By order of the Democratic County Committee.

SAMUEL DIBBLE.

COUNTY CHAIRMAN.

Not Any.

The well-known musical composer, Wagner, has magnanimously offered to come to America provided music-loving people on this side will guarantee him the moderate sum of one million dollars. We are really grateful, Richard, for the offer, but just now funds are a little "close," and we shall be compelled to worry along for a while longer without the light of your countenance.

THERE were two successful elopements in Charlotte last Sunday. A years experience will satisfy the parties that there is sometimes luck in leisure, especially in matters of that kind.

THE Hampton *Guardian* closed its first volume on the 13th inst. Brother McSweeney is an able journalist, and gets up one of the best papers in the State. We wish the *Guardian* continued prosperity.

—SUBSCRIBE FOR THE DEMOCRAT.

Vidotte's Reply to Picket.

Editors Orangeburg Democrat:

Ourrost, S. C., Aug. 21, 1880.

It is just as I thought it would be. Just as soon as "Picket" finds out that there is somebody ahead of him—nearer to the enemy—he moves up himself. He hears the ring of a rifle from the "outpost" and now we have his random shots from the same station. Well, "Picket," you will remember that I did not insinuate that you were deficient in "tiger blood," but that your *inexperience* was accountable for your *indiscretion*. Your movement to the front is in harmony with the diagnosis that I made of your case. You are in the ranks. That I know, veteran or no veteran, for if officers do picket duty they are generally back with the reserve, and not have rifles to be firing around promiscuously. You *desire promotion* and hence you move further to the front, hoping that you may be rendered a sword for *gallant* conduct. You will see that I have given your conduct the most favorable interpretation, for it admits of another. For instance. We are on the eve of a general engagement in which many must fall. A slight wound brings a furlough. The enemy have sharpshooters with globe-sights on their rifles. A random shot is fired by a picket. The location of that point is marked and watched by the sharpshooters, then a slight exposure of the picket, and then—a furlough! Now the weight of the evidence in the way you are acting is in favor of the furlough theory! still I render the verdict in favor of promotion.

Before this reaches your sight, the battle will be over. Some officers must fall in the struggle. If you survive, then there is a chance for you. If you fail now, why your only course is to *keep to the front*. Lead the charge and after awhile *virtue and valor* will be suitably rewarded.

I am not going to "desert my post," and I am going to "stay in my place." It is a good place, and—"don't you forget it"—*nobody is fighting for it*. It is full of exposure and danger and often the scene of many heated contests. Sometimes I am forced to retreat, I admit, but I always advance again and contend for my former position. Fighting—always fighting—for promotion, but *not to office*, but to a high position in the hearts of my fellow-soldiers.

You are mistaken when you think I turn my back on the enemy to watch you. I am watching the enemy and listening to your racket, and wondering if that fellow will have any ammunition left when the charge comes on. You might have to go to the rear to get ammunition at that very time. Did you ever think of that? And don't you know that that is the time when commissions for gallantry are falling around, and *some one else* might pick up yours? Fighting for a commission is not a fourth of July display of fireworks. It is active, close, energetic work.

"Vidotte's" "pet idea" is not a safe place, as "Picket" seems to think. "Vidotte's" "pet idea" is a *fair show*. He does want it to be safe so far as his *back* is concerned. It is enough for him to have to take care of his front. If he falls, he wants the blow to come from the enemy. That is his privilege and duty. But his *back* is exposed to the picket line. The "grand army does not fire at random" and the pickets feel safe, especially with "us videttes" in front of them. But now "Picket" as you have come out on the line with me you can pop away as much as you like.

I know it is good tactics to aim low when you see what you are shooting at and know it to be the enemy, and my advice was given to you to aim high because I thought you wanted to hit the enemy, and I know nothing less than an angle of forty-five degrees could carry your ball to one. Now since you are well out to the front, take a field-glass review of your surroundings; note all the strategic points and advance slowly and

surely until your capture every point necessary to carry the whole field by a grand charge. Save your powder, and your "caps" too until you can see the white of the enemy's eyes, then every shot will tell.

And now in conclusion, if you should find yourself out of *amunition* and have to go to the rear on Wednesday when the general engagement takes place, and thus lose the promotion for gallantry which you *seek*, then you will acknowledge that my advice was timely and good and regret that you had not heeded my voice of admonition.

On the other hand, if you have *amunition* on that day, don't shoot before the enemy gets in *sight*. Reserve your fire and let every crack of your rifle bring down your man, and when the smoke of the battle clears off from over the field look around for that officer who has the place you want and take of his uniform and put it on yourself—if he is killed. And when you get them on walk out and show yourself to

A Romantic Tragedy.

About five on Tuesday afternoon K. E. Parkhurst, a young lawyer of Bath, N. Y., shot and killed Fannie Howell, daughter of a prominent merchant there, and killed himself. They were married about four years ago, but they never lived together, a legal separation taking place immediately after the marriage. The tragedy took place in a room in the Nichols House where the two went but a few moments before the shooting. The young man and woman belonged to the best families in the place, and quite a romance is connected with their lives. Six or seven years ago they were married at a picnic, but parents interfered, and the courts declared the marriage null and void. Since arriving at age Parkhurst desired a re-marriage, but the girl's parents objected, and ill-feeling was engendered. On Tuesday Parkhurst again tried to persuade her to live with him, and upon her refusal drew a revolver, shooting her and then himself. The tragedy proves to be one of more peculiar romance than was supposed. Parkhurst had never wavered in his passionate love for her since the time of their clandestine marriage and subsequent separation when sixteen years of age. During the intervening seven years he had frequently endeavored by persuasion to convince the beautiful and accomplished Fannie to ignore her parents' injunction against renewed associations and intimacy with him, but, although she was still passionately fond of young Parkhurst, she dreaded her parent's displeasure and never dared to meet him openly. Since the discovery of the two, immediately following the murder and suicide, the placid smile which remained on the dead girl's countenance has been fully accounted for in a note found by the coroner in one of Parkhurst's pockets. It was written by the young man and read thus: "If we cannot live together, we can die together, and may God forgive us if we have done wrong."

GEN. W. J. Smith, Republican, advised the negroes Cayleville, Tenn., in a public speech last week "to quit spending their money for whisky," tobacco, cigars and gew-gaws, but to save it and buy powder, shot, guns and pistols with which to defend themselves in this election.

The owner of a pair of bright eyes says that the prettiest compliment she ever received came from a child of four years. The little fellow, after looking intently at her eyes a moment, inquired, naively: "Are your eyes new ones?"

DANIEL Dougherty, on his arrival at the White Sulphur Springs on Friday last, was tendered a reception by the guests. He was wine, dined and danced as the man who nominated the next President.